

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY), HU
SUBJ: RETURN OF THE CROWN: PRESIDENT'S LETTER

FOLLOWING IS THE REVISED TEXT OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S
LETTER DATED JANUARY 6, 1978, TO PRESIDENT LOSONCZI
WHICH SECRETARY VANCE WILL BE BRINGING WITH HIM.

BEGIN TEXT

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

A DELEGATION OF DISTINGUISHED AMERICANS, REPRESENTING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND HEADED BY MY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE, HAS JUST RETURNED TO THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE FOR PERMANENT DISPLAY, THE CROWN OF SAINT STEPHEN AND OTHER CORONATION REGALIA OF HUNGARY.

IT IS WITH A GENUINE SENSE OF PRIDE THAT I AM ABLE TO RETURN TO THE PEOPLE OF HUNGARY THIS PRICELESS TREASURE, WHICH THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN PRIVILEGED TO SHELTER SINCE THE TERRIBLE DEVASTATION OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR. I SEE IN THIS ACT THE REAFFIRMATION OF THE TRADITIONAL BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES.

I KNOW HOW MUCH THE CROWN, GIVEN TO SAINT STEPHEN BY POPE SYLVESTER II FOR HIS CORONATION IN THE YEAR
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1000, MEANS TO THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE. I AM AWARE OF THE CROWN'S RICH TRADITION AND HISTORY. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE THE DEEPEST RESPECT FOR THE RELIGIOUS AND NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CROWN AND SHARE MY PRIDE IN RETURNING IT.

MR. PRESIDENT, THE TIES BETWEEN OUR TWO PEOPLES ARE DEEP AND REACH BACK TO THE FOUNDING OF THE

AMERICAN NATION TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO. THE RELATIONS
BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS ARE GROWING EVERY YEAR TO
OUR MUTUAL BENEFIT. AS I MADE THE DECISIONS WHICH
WERE CARRIED TO COMPLETION TODAY,BOTH OF THESE THOUGHTS
WERE FIRMLY IN MY MIND.

IT IS MY SINCERE HOPE THAT WE MAY CONTINUE TO
BUILD ON THESE TIES TO THE MUTUAL ADVANTAGE OF
OUR PEOPLES. WE BOTH SHARE A COMMON INTEREST IN THE
FULL REALIZATION OF THE GOALS SET FORTH IN THE FINAL
ACT OF THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN
EUROPE. THE STRENGTHENING OF OUR BILATERAL RELATION-
SHIP AND THE EXPANSION OF AREAS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN
OUR TWO COUNTRIES WILL, I AM CONFIDENT, CONTRIBUTE
TO PEACE AND PROSPERITY FOR OUR PEOPLES.

IN CONCLUSION, MR. PRESIDENT, I WISH TO EXPRESS
MY THANKS TO YOU FOR THE COURTESY WHICH YOU HAVE
PERSONALLY EXTENDED TO THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION
AND FOR THE HOSPITALITY SHOWN BY THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE.

SINCERELY,

JIMMY CARTER

END TEXT

VANCE

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